

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2225
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2005
ASSISTANCE FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT
Singh Shri Prabhunath

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is providing financial assistance to poor people for their surgical and other medical treatment;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of applications from Bihar accorded sanction for such assistance and the amount released during the last three years, year-wise;
- (d) whether the amount sanctioned/released has been reduced; and
- (e) if so, the reasons for reducing the said amount?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b) Yes Sir. Under the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (previous known as National Illness Assistance Fund), financial assistance is provided to patients falling in the Below Poverty Line category who are suffering from major life threatening diseases for getting medical/surgical treatment from any of the Super-speciality Hospital/Institution/other Government Hospital.

Under another scheme namely Health Minister's Discretionary Grant (HMDG), partial financial assistance to the extent of Rs. 20,000/- is provided to the poor & needy patients to defray part of expenditure on hospitalization for undergoing major surgical interventions and treatment of major diseases.

(c) Maximum of applicants who have been sanctioned financial assistance by the Central Committee of the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi and from the health Minister's Discretionary Grant as indicated in the Statement enclosed (Annexure 'A')

(d) & (e) Under the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi, financial assistance is provided to the extent of funds required for their treatment (after deducting the amount of any assistance received by the patients from some others sources like Prime Minister's relief fund, Chief Minister's relief fund etc.)

ANNEXURE-A

Annexure in reply to part (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2225 for 7.12.2005

HEALTH MINISTER'S DISCRETIONARY GRANT

YEAR	NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS	AMOUNT RELEASED
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2002-03	86	13.74
2003-04	63	12.00
2004-05	48	8.70

RASHTRIYA AROGYA NIDHI

YEAR	NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS	AMOUNT RELEASED
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2002-03	11	12.40
2003-04	16	16.33
2004-05	39	45.20

Above figure do not include applicants who may have been sanctioned financial grant by Medical Superintendent of Various Central Government Hospitals who are authorised to sanction the financial assistance upto Rs.50,000/-.